

# PRIZE WINNERS IN THE WOMAN SUFFRAGE CONTEST

## Awards of Judges in "The Sun's" Competition on the Question "Do Women Want to Vote?"

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—Sir: It is not an easy task that you have set me—to pick the winner from among all these good articles on "Why Women Want to Vote." Of course different women want to vote for different reasons and these writers have stated their views clearly and fearlessly. I like the air of downright seriousness, of speaking from conviction that characterizes them all.

The honor of first place must, I think, go to "A Nobler Usefulness for Women," by Marjorie Benton Cooke, because it is so thorough and comprehensive, with "Woman Would Destroy Weeds in the Garden of Life," by Anita C. Block as a very close second. These two writers make us see and feel that the reason women are willing to work unceasingly and make great sacrifices to gain the right to vote is not hatred of men, or even their sense of justice, but what some generous soul has called their "divine passion for being useful." The gentle old lady, speaking from the fulness of life, tells her daughters that woman's mission is to give the benefit of the experience she has gained in the service of her own family to "the whole social family." And the woman in the midst of the weeds—you will never forget her—was so filled with the vision of what that garden might be that there was no peace until she got her rake and could help the man to make real the ideal they both cherished.

Sara McPike covers the subject very well in her "Thinking, Patriotic, Philanthropic Women Want to Vote." There is something very self-reliant and hopeful in "A Feminine Bill of Rights," by Mrs. John H. Lewis, and much food for thought in "For Intellectual and Civic Independence," modestly signed "Waterloo, N. Y."

This is, I trust, only the first of a series of contests, for you could hardly choose a better way of informing your readers of the real motives of suffragists.

ELIZABETH ELLSWORTH COOK,  
Vice-President of the Women's Political Union.

Marjorie Benton Cooke is a member of the Women's University Club at 99 Madison avenue, New York. Her prize winning essay is reprinted below:

### A Nobler Usefulness for Women.

[A very old lady addresses an audience of women as follows:]

Madam Chairman and Dear Children—I'm much too old to speak in public meetings. Since the days of Susan B. Anthony I've served the cause of woman suffrage and now this tired old voice has earned a rest, but your chairman has asked me to say a word, and like an old war horse I answer to the bugle call.

The first question is, "Why do women want to vote?" What is this much discussed weapon we name the ballot? It is the expression of an opinion. A democracy takes cognizance of the opinion of every sane member of society in order to incorporate into its laws and civic institutions the needs of all the people. Since we proclaim a democracy, since woman is a sane member thereof, since she obeys its laws, pays taxes, suffers under bad government, she naturally desires a voice in public councils.

Politics enter into every department of woman's kingdom, the home. With the force of the ballot behind her she could help make stricter laws in regard to pure food, pure milk, meat inspection, health officers, cleaning of city streets and alleys, purer water supply. Do we need her help?

Mothers want a vote in all matters concerning the education of children. They want a say about the licensing of nickel theatres, dance halls, saloons, and all places of amusement where the young congregate. They want to help

AWARDS OF THE JUDGES IN "THE SUN'S" WOMAN SUFFRAGE DEBATE.  
Winner of the prize of \$50 for the best article in favor of woman suffrage, Marjorie Benton Cooke, Women's University Club, 99 Madison avenue, New York.  
Winner of the prize of \$50 for the best article opposed to woman suffrage, Grace Duffield Goodwin, 1605 Irving street, N. W., Washington, D. C.

THE JUDGES.  
In favor of woman suffrage—Miss Elizabeth Ellsworth Cook, vice-president of the Women's Political Union.  
Opposed to woman suffrage—Mrs. William A. Putnam, president of the New York State Association Opposed to Woman Suffrage.



Miss Marjorie Benton Cooke

Marjorie Benton Cooke might not have actually committed the crime, and he and Logue knew it had been done some years before the discovery under the kitchen.

In the meantime, perhaps several months before that, Melville Davison Post, an attorney in Philadelphia, was preparing a series of articles for the *Saturday Evening Post*, where they were calculated to show how futile human agency is against the machinery of Destiny once the individual has made himself obnoxious to the common good, of course Mr. Post knew nothing about the fight for a pardon, as it was being carried on more or less quietly, and probably he wrote his series of articles long before the preparations for seeking a pardon that year were well under way.

Knowing the case of Cutaiar illustrated as vividly as anything the point with which he wished to impress his readers Mr. Post seized upon it for the purpose of exemplification and made it the most striking of his many citations from legal records.

The argument before the Pardon Board was set for Saturday, May 14, 1910, in the Capitol at Harrisburg. Three days before that date in every home in Pennsylvania where the *Saturday Evening Post* is read members of the family were retelling to one another the tale of Cutaiar and his long guard

over his secret. The result was obvious. The fight for the pardon was dropped and did not come before the board that year or the next.

This year it was taken up again and Gov. Tener signed the papers which released Aphonse F. Cutaiar, now 62 years old, the other day.

Mr. Post is perhaps the only author who has ever known positively that his own writing itself furnished as great proof of the contention he was arguing

as anything he set down as such proof. Cutaiar is with his wife—she who was the unknown guard over the secret in the kitchen so many years—and three children. They have remained true to him all through the years of his imprisonment, and their loyalty has been one of the appealing phases of the fight for the pardon. Cutaiar's brother is in business and is successful. It is said that the two will become partners in that business.



Miss E. E. Cook

## Marjorie Benton Cooke, for Votes for Women, and Grace Duffield Goodwin, Opposed, the Winners

English factories for the United States Government. It was difficult to choose between her article and Mrs. Goodwin's. Mrs. Bushey brings out very definitely a point which is usually ignored, that men are not vindictive toward women and that women have not had to wait long for the men to safeguard their interests.

One or two of the writers are absolutely ignorant of anti-suffrage arguments, and I should be glad if the writer signing herself or himself "A" would call at our office for some of our literature and get in touch with either the New York or one of the many State associations which make up the National Association Opposed to Woman Suffrage. Carolyn R. R. Putnam, President of the New York State Association Opposed to Woman Suffrage, 29 West Thirty-ninth street, New York.

The writer of "Only Eight Per cent. of Women Want to Vote" is Mrs. Grace Duffield Goodwin of 1605 Irving street, N. W., Washington, D. C., president of the District of Columbia Auxiliary to the National Association Opposed to Woman Suffrage. Here is the article:

### Only Eight Per Cent. of Women Want Votes.

The anti-suffrage position is defensive. It holds that 92 per cent. of American women are either actively opposed or indifferent to the question of equal suffrage and that eight per cent. should not coerce so large a majority.

These percentages are from figures obtained at the suffrage headquarters. The 8,000,000 working women in the wage earning class are better protected to-day in male suffrage than in equal suffrage States. No equal suffrage State has won the temperance fight, and in these States lies the stronghold of Mormonism. These facts invalidate the argument that where women vote temperance and purity will inevitably prevail.

Owing to her peculiar work of motherhood woman should hold a higher position than that merely of man's political and industrial equal. She must be a privileged worker under laws made

to favor her physical weakness unless the race is to see its children born in full asylums and graveyards. The suffragists disdain this position and when they make the laws they desire to legislate for equality only. They disdain such immunities and privileges as New York and Massachusetts grant to women. They forget that sex is an industrial and that sex in industrial and political life is woman's handicap.

Anti-suffragists claim that women neglect franchise opportunities already granted, only two per cent. of New England women voting on school matters. American political conditions differ from those of small and homogeneous countries where equal suffrage moves with moderate success. Ours is a country of unassimilated peoples, with a problem of the ignorant, the indifferent, the negro, the alien. In five years we confer citizenship upon the dregs of Europe so some boss may control his city or his State. The danger will be doubled when, class for class, the women are added to the men.

Women do not need the vote to secure beneficent legislation. They are heeded more quickly when they have no axes to grind. Allied to a party, with votes to deliver, trades to make, they can never again be considered as disinterested workers for the common good. It is the duty of all women to work for civic betterment and to instill honor and patriotism in their children.

Homes to-day are menaced by women's restlessness, impatience and by the resultant nervous instability and impaired efficiency. I believe in women; they hold the keys to all the great problems; but I believe that many of them are wasting time and strength fitting them to the wrong doors. Civilization after many painful centuries has differentiated the work of men and women. We are given the headwaters in trust for the nation and the race, and we are letting them dry up while we sail paper ships on the great seas of men's legitimate endeavor.

GRACE DUFFIELD GOODWIN,  
President of the District of Columbia Auxiliary to the National Association Opposed to Woman Suffrage.

## HOW FATE PURSUED CUTAIAR

APHONSE F. CUTAIAR, for sixteen years a prisoner in murderers' row in the Eastern Penitentiary at Philadelphia, has been pardoned by Gov. Tener on the recommendation of the Pardon Board of the State. The case is remarkable in account of the way fate seemed to pursue Cutaiar.

Cutaiar was a barber who lived in a house on Eleventh street, Philadelphia, where he also had his shop. With him lived John or Jimmy Logue, a notorious bank robber and all around criminal, and his wife, Johanna Logue. Logue was Cutaiar's stepfather, but Mrs. Logue was no relation to him.

In 1879 Logue and his wife went to New York, then to Boston and several other cities in the East on a trip, the object of which never was told. Logue left his wife and went on some mission into New England after giving her \$100 and four \$1,000 Government bonds. She returned to Philadelphia.

She went to the home of Cutaiar wearing some \$400 worth of jewelry and prepared to take up her abode there until her husband returned. That night Cutaiar killed her, dug a shallow grave and hid the body under the kitchen of the house, after stripping her of her jewelry, money and bonds. He fled, carrying his loot, and wandered the streets of Philadelphia all night.

Toward morning he became so frightened that he ran to the Delaware River and threw jewelry, money and bonds into the stream. Then he turned and fled to his shop, where his secret lay under the freshly nailed boards of the kitchen floor. From that day on, for several months, he never ceased to guard the body of the murdered woman, which seemed to hold him with invisible chains.

In the meantime Logue returned to Philadelphia, thinking to find his wife there with Cutaiar. His stepson told him that Johanna Logue had returned to New York by a night train a short time after she had reached Philadelphia. Logue went to New York and searched for his wife, looking in all the hotels and other places which the pair frequented while in the metropolis. Then he started a systematic police search for her and finally gave it up. His wife had made away with herself or had been murdered, he concluded, or she had

left him voluntarily, taking with her the money and bonds. He rather believed in the last possibility.

No one suspected Cutaiar. Loneliness overcame him and he became frantic for companionship, but he dared have no man in the house with him. He needed some one who would bear such a relationship to him that he could place every trust in her. He decided he must marry. Only a wife could be relied on to guard whatever of the horrible secret beneath the kitchen he might let slip in the course of years. He went out and sought a wife.

Cutaiar at last found a helpmeet and they were married. For years they continued to watch together over the secret under the cook stove, he in knowing terror and she unwittingly. After fourteen years he felt he no longer needed so cautious and he decided to move.

Destiny had waited patiently and her time had come! Not long after the removal of the Cutaiars to another part of the city the purchaser of their old home decided to make a few repairs and plumbers tore up the floor of the kitchen preparatory to putting in water and gas pipes.

They found a plain gold ring and the bones of a woman, in addition to a handkerchief and a dotted veil in a decayed handbag. On the inside of the ring was this: "J. L. to J. E. L."

The ring was the wedding ring which Jimmy Logue had given to his bride. The veil was recognized as similar to the one which Mrs. Logue wore on the day she returned to Philadelphia in 1879. Cutaiar was convicted of the murder and was sentenced to death.

Later his sentence was commuted to life imprisonment, and a fight was begun to have him pardoned. Because the conviction was obtained on purely circumstantial evidence and largely because of Cutaiar's contradictions of his own statements, several public spirited men took up his plea for liberty. Among them was Alexander Balfour, a traction magnate, who was head of the Board of Pardon.

Before anything definite was done Mr. Balfour died. His son was appointed to succeed him and the fight began anew. Samuel W. Pennypacker was Governor at the time and he refused to consider a pardon, as he had been Judge of the court which convicted Cutaiar. Also he expressed the opinion that, while Cu-

## TEN THOUSAND BULL MOOSETTES HAVE ARRANGED TO GO TAGGING

EVERY one who is not imbued with the true Progressive spirit might do well to stay indoors on October 26, for it is on that day that Mrs. Medill McCormick's committee of ten thousand is to tag people.

And it costs money to be decorated with one of those little gold moosettes which the Bull Moosettes will fasten on every man and woman they overtake. Citizens who have the general appearance of prosperous bankers or brokers

will be expected to hand over one or two yellowbacks, while supposed college professors, leading suffragettes, lawyers, doctors and other more intellectual won't be taxed more than a dollar or two and members of the laboring class will not be asked for more than a quarter.

But the price will not be paid for nothing; oh, by no means. Every person tagged will become a perfectly good registered member of the Progressive Party and will receive a certificate.

Mrs. Amos Pinchot, national chairman of the women's finance committee, who has charge of the Greater New York taggers' brigade, has already arranged for a staff of trusty lieutenants, some of whom will start their patrol at 6 in the morning, while others will stay on duty till midnight. The entrances to all theatres will be closely guarded and likewise the exits. Elevated and subway stations and the docks of Jersey ferries will be under strict surveillance

and every hotel corridor will be more dangerous than an aisle in a suffrage fair.

Mrs. Pinchot, who is a niece of George William Curtis, has interested many of her New York and Washington friends in the tag campaign. One of the most prominent of these is Mrs. Burke Cockran, who is a daughter of Henry Ide, now Minister to Spain. She met Mr. Cockran while travelling with President Taft's Philippine party. Her interest in politics is very keen, and she is now campaigning with her husband, who is running for Congress in Nassau county, Long Island.

Another enthusiastic amateur politician is Mrs. Theodore Douglas Robinson, whose mother was a Miss Astor, and whose husband, now running for Congress in Herkimer county, is a nephew of the Colonel.

Mrs. Oscar Straus, wife of the Progressive candidate for Governor, is much interested in the tag method of collecting

money, and has promised to participate in the performance if she is not out of the city on a stumping tour with Mr. Straus.

The leader of the Virginia taggers is Mrs. Reginald Brooks, the youngest of the three Langhorne sisters, of whom it was said that each was more beautiful than the others. Her sisters are Mrs. Charles Dana Gibson and Mrs. Waldorf Astor.

Mrs. Thomas Hitchcock, organizer of the Meadow Lakes, the first woman's polo club, will have charge of the Long

Island taggers, but she has given her word of honor as a sportswoman that no notice will be used in the pursuit of pelicans on founders' day.

Others who will do all they can to make the tag a success are Mrs. Elton Hooker, wife of the national Bull Moose treasurer, Mrs. Everett C. Bay, wife of the New Jersey Progressive leader, Mrs. Philip Livermore, daughter of C. Oliver Iselin, and Miss Helen Coster of Tuxedo, one of the board of managers of the sister league.

Mrs. A. Gordon Nannie will take charge of all the up-state work.

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Mrs. Joseph Sampson Stevens



Mrs. Everett Colby



Mrs. W. Bourke Cockran



Mrs. E. H. Hooker



Mrs. Oscar Straus



Mrs. Amos Pinchot